CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT

Soviet Criticism of Volkskammer
Election

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.

THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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- 1. The Soviet authorities have apparently found fault with the conduct or the outcome, or both, of the recent elections in East Germany. Ambassador G.M.Pushkin is alleged to have expressed sharp criticism upon his return from Moscow on 25 October 1954, particularly at a meeting of leading SED officials on 30 October.
- 2. As a result of these criticisms, the SED has dropped its propaganda line to the effect that the election could serve as a model for the reunification of Germany. It is now declaring that the special economic and political circumstances of East Germany are not necessarily transferable to West Germany. The propaganda of the SED is now more in agreement with the SPD position, holding that the people of the two parts of Germany should decide their own future without outside interference.

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